



# Family News

News and Information for Families of individuals at Muscatatuck SDC and Madison State Hospital during the transition to community-based services.

## Inside this issue

- Future Issues – Looking Ahead
- Medicaid Waiver Workshops
- MR/DD Commission Hears Good News
- Public Hearing Required by SB 217
- Resources: Bureau of Developmental Disabilities  
Community Mental Health Centers  
Handy Web Sites
- SE Regional Outreach Team Implementation

October 2002

## MR/DD Commission hears the good news about moving out of institutions

**There is, after all, life after institutions...** That was the message heard by members of the Indiana Commission on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities when they traveled to Lafayette to conduct a meeting specifically designed to allow testimony by families with positive experiences to relate.

The other message: Providers have stepped up to the plate to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Jim Quiett of Columbus, whose stepbrother had lived in Muscatatuck for 32 years, spoke about the grave family concern over the news that the institution would close. Today, however, the family has a different tale to tell.

"As scared as we were about what was going to happen," Mr. Quiett said, "just the opposite has happened. This has turned out to be the best thing that has ever happened to Pat."

Quiett said the family has remained vigilant – which has increased their respect for Residential CRF, the Connersville-based provider they selected. He said the family has conducted frequent surprise visits, "and we've never found anything we didn't think was right."

Quiett told the members of the MR/DD Commission that family contact with Pat has multiplied, adding, "the nicest thing about the transition was that we had control of who took care of things."

Nanette Whightsel of Hamilton County had a similar story to tell. Her 38-year-old medically fragile daughter had been a long-time resident of New Castle State Developmental Center when that institution had closed, and she had been firmly convinced that Suzette could not survive, let alone thrive, in a community setting.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Medicaid Waiver Program Workshops

### November 7 – Fort Wayne

1-4 pm & 6-9 pm  
Allen Co. Public Library  
900 Webster St.

### November 13 – Seymour

1-4 pm & 6-9 pm  
Jackson Co. Public Library  
Seymour Branch  
Walnut & 2<sup>nd</sup> St.

### November 8 – Portland

1-4 pm & 6-9 pm  
Jay Co. Public Library  
315 N. Ship St.

### November 16 – Franklin

9:15 am – noon  
Johnson Co. Public Library  
Franklin Branch  
401 S. State St.

### November 9 – Marion

9 am – noon  
Marion Public Library  
600 S. Washington St.

### December 3 – Richmond

1-4 pm & 6-9 pm  
Friends Fellowship  
2030 Chester Blvd.

### November 12 – New Albany

1-4 pm & 6-9 pm  
Carnegie Center  
201 E. Spring St.

### December 5 – Lafayette

1-4 pm & 6-9 pm  
Ivy Tech, Ivy Hall,  
Eli Lilly Rm.  
3101 S. Creasy Lane

*see related story, pg. 4*

## SE REGIONAL CENTER OUTREACH TEAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES BEING IMPLEMENTED

The SE Regional Center Outreach Team of 27 staff has been approved. The Team was developed to provide technical assistance, consultation, training and limited back up services in the following areas: Behavior Management, Adaptive Equipment, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Audiology, Medical Services, Dentistry, Neurology, Nursing Care, Vocational/Habilitation and Dietary.

FSSA is committed to providing a continuum of care that is community-based and close to home — when possible. As we develop the eight regional service systems outlined in the State Operated Facilities Report, an array of services will be available to people with developmental disabilities, mental illness and addiction problems. When creating service regions, the most important factor is ensuring services are available in the region or near the consumer.

The first regional service area of 18 counties will be located in Madison. A variety of outreach supports and services will be provided. Local input was key in determining the services that are needed. This is evident with the development of the outreach team for individuals with developmental disabilities. Services were based on the recommendations of the SE Indiana Regional Center Configuration Work Group. The work group members included parents,

family members, advocates and providers.

FSSA is committed to providing a continuum of care that is community-based and close to home whenever possible.

### Mission of DD outreach team:

- To protect the health and safety of individuals and improve their quality of life – through the provision of information, supports and services to individuals, their families, service providers and targeted case

managers.

### Role and function of the DD outreach team:

- To provide formal training regarding contemporary topics to consumers, their families, service providers, targeted case managers, and state staff in the southeast region of Indiana. When possible training will be provided in the

community close to the consumer. The goal is to have consistent training provided across the state. Training topics will be determined based on identified needs through the analysis and synthesis of quality/risk data.

- To provide technical assistance and consultation regarding state of the art practices to consumers, their families, service providers, targeted case managers, and state staff in the southeast region of Indiana. Hands on technical assistance will be provided. The goal is to implement state of the art practices across the state, which will promote enhanced quality of service. Consultation will be provided based on identified needs through the analysis and synthesis of quality/risk data and requests from providers and targeted case managers. Outreach staff will provide current information on an ongoing basis.

Staff will be available to provide consultation via the phone or E-mail in a timely manner. In addition, it is anticipated that current literature will be provided through a consortium of all regional centers and the Indiana Institute on Disabilities and Community. These regional centers will be an excellent source of locally based information.

Cindy Speer has been hired as the Assistant Southeast Regional Director for DD Services. Cindy comes to this position from Muscatatuck SDC. Other team members will be hired in three phases over the next several months. Outreach services currently provided will convert to the permanent DD outreach team.

FSSA is pleased to expand community-based services to assist individuals and families.

Small steps, pursued daily, will achieve the grandest of results. To climb that mountain, stay focused on the terrain, not the top; expect roadblocks, and persist.

anonymous

## **Bureau of Developmental Disabilities**

### **District 1 – Merrillville**

Counties served: Jasper, Lake, Newton, Porter,  
Pulaski & Starke  
5800 Broadway, Suite P  
Merrillville, IN 46410  
Phone: 219-887-0503 or 1-877-216-3053  
Fax: 219-985-8652

### **District 2 – South Bend**

Counties served: Cass, Elkhart, Fulton, Howard,  
Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Miami, St. Joseph,  
Tipton & Wabash  
215 S. St. Joseph St., Suite 401  
South Bend, IN 46601-2022  
Phone: 574-232-1412 or 1-877-218-3059  
Fax 574-287-5482

### **District 3 – Ft. Wayne**

Counties served: Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Huntington,  
LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells & Whitley  
219 W. Wayne St.  
Ft. Wayne, IN 46802  
Phone: 260-423-2571 or 1-877-218-3061  
Fax 260-424-2830

### **District 4 – Greencastle**

Counties Served: Benton, Carroll, Clay, Clinton,  
Fountain, Monroe, Montgomery, Owens, Parke,  
Putnam, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Vermillion, Vigo,  
Warren & White  
1007 Mill Pond Rd., Ste. A  
Greencastle, IN 46135-1887  
Phone: 765-653-2468 or 1-877-218-3096  
Fax 765-653-7152

### **District 5 – Indianapolis**

Counties Served: Marion  
4701 N. Keystone, Suite 200  
Indianapolis, IN 46205-1541  
Phone: 317-254-2065 or 1-877-218-3530  
Fax: 317-254-2075

### **District 6 – Muncie**

Counties served: Blackford, Delaware, Fayette,  
Franklin, Grant, Henry, Jay, Madison, Randolph,  
Rush, Union & Wayne  
1100 Martin Luther King Blvd., Suite 4  
Muncie, IN 47304  
Phone: 765-288-6516 or 1-877-218-3531  
Fax: 765-288-8529

### **District 7 – Evansville**

Counties served: Daviess, Dubois, Gibson, Greene,  
Knox, Martin, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer,  
Vanderburgh & Warrick  
700 E. Walnut St.  
Evansville, IN 47713  
Phone: 812-423-8449 or 1-877-218-3528  
Fax: 812-428-414

### **District 8 – Clarksville & Seymour**

Counties Served: Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Harrison,  
Lawrence, Orange, Scott & Washington  
1452 Vaxter Ave.  
P. O. Box 2517  
Clarksville, IN 4131-2517  
Phone: 812-283-1040 or 1-877-218-3529  
Fax: 812-285-9533

or  
200 E. Third St.  
P. O. Box 903  
Seymour, IN 47274-0930  
Phone: 812-522-5859 or 1-877-218-3532  
Fax: 812-523-1160

### **District 9 – Indianapolis**

Counties served: Boone, Hamilton, Hancock,  
Hendricks, Johnson, Morgan & Shelby  
4701 N. Keystone, Suite 200  
Indianapolis, IN 46205-1541  
Phone: 317-254-2065 or 1-877-218-3530  
Fax: 317-610-3164

### **Central Office**

P. O. Box 7083  
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7083  
Phone: 1-800-545-2320 Fax: 317-233-2320

*SE Regional Center Outreach, continued from page 2*

### **Future issues**

- Consumer Credit Counseling
- Features & Training Updates
- FSSA Regional Planning Series
- Governor's Commission on  
Home & Community-Based Services
- Questions & Answers with  
Secretary John Hamilton

## Consumer Guide to Medicaid Waiver Services Available Now

### Highlights:

- Application process
- Consumer rights
- Quality assurance
- Choosing a provider
- Understanding the waiver programs
- Navigating the system

Those attending one of the Medicaid Waiver workshops will receive a copy. The guide is published by the Governor's Planning Council for People with Disabilities and may be ordered through their office:

50 W. Market St., Rm. 628

Indianapolis, IN 46201

[gpcpd@gpcpd.org](mailto:gpcpd@gpcpd.org)

Phone: 317-232-7770 Fax: 317-233-3712

*See schedule of upcoming workshops — page 1*

*MR/DD Commission, continued from page 1*

"We thought there is no way in the world anyone could serve her in the community," said Whightsel, who added that her daughter now owns her own home, where she hosts a roommate. Both receive 24-hour-care, with AHS of Connersville serving as the provider.

Other testimony came from Mr. and Mrs. Rolland Vick, who could not attend but forwarded a letter read by Wabash Center President Jeff Darling. "Every day is an improvement in Robert's life," they wrote about their son, who moved out of New Castle and is now in a supported living setting.

State Rep. Sheila Klinker underscored the importance of the Vicks' endorsement, noting that the couple had at first been very adamant against the New Castle closing.

Both Quiett and Whightsel told the MR/DD Commission that parents don't have enough information when they face life-changing decisions. Quiett, in particular, said that the FSSA website is much too confusing to be of any use.

Source: INARF, Inc. On-Line (October 2002)

## Public Hearing

### Required by SB 217

Wednesday, November 6, 2002

6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

To gather written and oral testimony from interested persons regarding the effects of downsizing and closure of MSDC on current residents, residents' families and employees.

**&**

7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

To gather written and oral testimony from interested persons regarding the effect of downsizing and closure of MSDC on surrounding communities.

### Location:

Jennings County Public Library

2375 N. State Highway 3

North Vernon, IN

812-346-2091

## Handy Numbers and Web Sites:

### MSDC/MSH Info Hotline:

1-800-903-9822

[www.IN.gov/fssa/transition](http://www.IN.gov/fssa/transition)

*maintained by FSSA to answer your questions*

### DD Waiver Ombudsman:

1-800-622-4484

*available to respond to your comments and questions*

### Community Mental Health Centers

- Quinco Behavioral Health Systems  
Bartholomew, Brown, Decatur, Jackson, Jefferson & Jennings Counties  
812-348-7749
- LifeSpring Mental Health Services  
Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Jefferson, Scott & Washington Counties  
812-283-4491
- Community Mental Health Center, Inc.  
Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley & Switzerland Counties  
812-537-1302